

for the small handful of Greek families that settled in Northwest Indiana. The name was later chosen to signify the importance of Saint Constantine, the Roman Emperor who permitted the freedom of practicing Christianity in the Fourth Century, as well as Saint Helen, Saint Constantine's mother, in their fight for the preservation of their heritage and Greek culture.

In 1913, the first worship services were held in a rented store building, and SS Constantine and Helen became the first Greek Church in the City of Gary. Following two years of leadership by visiting priests from Chicago, Reverend Nicholas Mandilas became the first permanent pastor for the church. In 1919, after years of traveling around the Midwest searching for financial help, and worshipping in tents in the dead of winter, the congregation's valiant and dedicated efforts led them to the opening of their first church building on Easter Sunday. Approximately 50 years later, another church building was constructed in Merrillville, Indiana and the Cultural Center was opened to the residents of Northwest Indiana.

Being a member of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), Lodge 78, I am a strong advocate for the preservation and promotion of the ideals and morals of Hellenism throughout all of Northwest Indiana. Throughout its 90 years of service and dedication, Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church has offered the inspiration to be good citizens of the community, practice faith freely, and educate our youth so that the Greek heritage may never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church as they celebrate their 90th anniversary. Their sincere dedication and devotion to the residents of Northwest Indiana deserves the highest commendation and recognition.

RECOGNIZING MEGAN LEFEVOUR FOR HER ACHIEVEMENTS AS A MEMBER OF MY STAFF

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Megan Lefevour, a very dedicated and enthusiastic member of my Washington D.C. Congressional Staff.

Meg has served my office for nearly two years, as well as serving as an intern for the Speaker of the House HASTERT. As a Staff Assistant, Systems Administrator, Legislative Correspondent, and Legislative Assistant, she has established a passion for working on the Hill. Meg holds dear the people she has worked with in her many roles as a Hill staffer.

I, and others, greatly value Meg's hard work and commitment. Constituents have grown to know her attention to detail, knowledge of many issues, and personal touch that should not go unrecognized. Her dedication to the Sixth District of Missouri has shown through over the past two years, which is evident by the appreciation of all she works with.

It is unfortunate for countless people that Meg will be leaving the Hill, as she has left

her unique stamp on many. I, as well as my office, wish Meg the very best in her future career with education and wish her and Chris all the happiness in their life together.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Megan Lefevour for her many important contributions to myself, my staff, all those she has worked with on the Hill, and for all those she has served. She will be missed by many.

HONORING ROBERT A. BOWERS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert A. Bowers, a constituent of my Fifth Congressional District. Deputy Bowers, an honorable officer of the law, was recently named the 2003 Levy County Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by his colleagues and superiors and I want to take this opportunity before this body to honor him and to say a few words about why he is deserving of this important distinction.

Deputy Bowers has served the Levy County Sheriff's Office since October of 2001 as an officer in the Road Patrol Division and has been active in the "Buckle Up" program, ensuring safety on our highways by enforcing our state's seatbelt and child-restraint laws.

Deputy Bowers has been described by his colleagues as someone with a cheerful and professional demeanor, no matter what the situation or task at hand. His service to Levy County is in its early days and I believe he will continue to be an asset to the Levy County Sheriff's Office for many years to come.

Having law enforcement officers like him is what makes our roadways and communities safe and it is what inspires youngsters to continue in the profession of noble, honorable service to their neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting Deputy Bowers and all officers of the law, for the work they do is invaluable and of immeasurable importance to our society and to our safety.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, due to excessive flooding in North Central, Central and South Central portions of Indiana, I was unable to be in Washington during rollcall vote Nos. 460–462. Had I been here I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote Nos. 460–462.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE SHERWOOD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this Congress and this nation to

pay tribute to an outstanding public servant from my district, Steve Sherwood. Steve is the Deputy Forest Supervisor in the White River National Forest who works hard to protect and maintain our beloved natural areas. Steve's service throughout the country has helped keep our national forests open to everyone, providing a variety of users with access to recreation.

Steve came to the White River National Forest in 2000, moving from Washington D.C. to be part of the wilderness that he loves. He spends most of his time overseeing the White River's wilderness, recreation, and heritage programs. As an outdoorsman, Steve has a better understanding of the needs of our forests; he is often fishing and biking throughout the lands he protects.

When Steve is not at work protecting our public lands, he is at home with his wife Carolyn and his two children William and Jessica. Steve works hard in the hope that his children will have forests and wilderness areas to enjoy many years after he has gone.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Steve for his dedication, and it gives me great joy to inform this body of Congress and this nation of his hard work and devotion at the U.S. Forest Service. Thank you, Steve, for your hard work and dedication. Your commitment and involvement in our national forests will not be forgotten.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. HANK STRAM

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. It is with great joy and enthusiasm that I wish to congratulate Mr. Hank Stram on his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Hank Stram's path to football greatness began many years ago when he was an athletic standout at Lew Wallace High School in Gary, Indiana earning all-state honors as halfback. On Sunday, August 3, 2003, Hank Stram received the ultimate honor with his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

After graduating from Lew Wallace High School, Stram attended Purdue University on a football scholarship. He earned four letters in baseball and three in football for the Boiler-makers. His collegiate career was interrupted for three years of military service in World War II. During his senior year at Purdue, Stram received the coveted Big Ten Medal that is awarded to the conference athlete who best combines athletics with academics.

Immediately upon graduation in 1948, Stram joined Purdue's football coaching staff. He served 12 years as an assistant on the collegiate level, with stops at Southern Methodist, Notre Dame and Miami (Florida).

In 1960 he was named head coach of the Dallas Texans in the new American Football League. The rest is history. Stram guided the Texans to the AFL championship in 1962 and the team then moved to Kansas City and became the Chiefs. In Kansas City, Stram led the Chiefs to the 1966 and 1969 AFL Championships.

His 1966 Kansas City team played in the first Super Bowl, losing to the Green Bay